

City of Binghamton
Commission on Architecture and Urban Design
29 October 2013
Minutes

APPROVED as corrected – 19 November 2013

Date: 29 October 2013
Location: PHCD Conference Room, 4th Floor City Hall
Present: Ruth Levy – Commissioner, Chair
Sean Massey – Commissioner, Vice-chair
Larry Borelli – Commissioner
John Darrow – Commissioner
Mike Haas – Commissioner
Peter Klosky – Commissioner
Jeff Smith – Commissioner
H. Peter L’Orange – Historic Preservation Planner
Joel Boyd – Economic Development
Thomas Costello – Supervisor Building and Construction/Code Enforcement
Lora Zier – Broome County Planning Department

Ms. Levy called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 PM.

The minutes from the 24 September 2013 meeting were reviewed. Mr. Haas made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted; it was seconded by Mr. Borelli. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried 6-0-0.

Items Heard:

Recreation Park - Addition: Bill Barber, the Director of Parks, presented this case. Mr. Barber informed the Commission that an addition had been constructed on the small concession building located south of the little league field. He reported that he was not aware for the Commission’s jurisdiction over City owned properties, and had come before the Commission to apologize and to inform them of the project. The new addition matches the existing building, and will be used to store maintenance equipment. Mr. Massey made a motion to approve the construction, with the understanding that it had already been completed and that this would not set a precedent for any future projects; it was seconded by Mr. Smith. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried 6-0-0; the project was APPROVED.

21 Main Street – Signage: Staff presented this case. The Applicant proposed to install two (2) new signs at this location: one (1) awning sign, and one (1) projecting sign. The Commission elected to split their review into two (2) separate votes, one for each sign. Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the awning sign as proposed; it was seconded by Mr. Massey. There was no further discussion; the motion was carried 6-0-0; the awning sign was APPROVED. The Commission then discussed the projecting sign. Members were concerned about the proposed size of the projecting sign; the Commission was also concerned that they did not have enough information regarding its proposed location or the proposed support structures or lighting. Mr.

Smith made a motion to table the projecting sign until this information could be provided; it was seconded by Mr. Haas. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried 6-0-0; the projecting sign was TABLED.

83 Court Street – Painting, Streetscape, and Awning: [Mr. Smith recused himself this case.] The Applicant presented this case. The Commission decided to separate their reviews for each of the elements: paint; streetscape work; and awnings. The Applicant presented the proposal for the painting scheme. There was a long discussion of the proposed colors. The Commission suggested that the Applicant also paint the ornamental globes at the top of the Court Street façade the same red as to be used on the roof; the Applicant agreed to this. Mr. Massey made a motion to approve the color scheme as presented, with the condition that the Applicant paint the globes as discussed; it was seconded by Mr. Borelli. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried 5-0-1, with Mr. Smith in abstention; the paint was APPROVED with conditions. The Commission then reviewed the proposal to install a modern glass paver system in front of the storefront for the Court Street façade. There was some discussion of how the pavers are installed. Mr. Massey made a motion to approve the glass pavers as presented; it was seconded by Mr. Borelli. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried 5-0-1, with Mr. Smith in abstention; the glass pavers were APPROVED. [Mr. Darrow arrived at this point.] Finally, the Commission reviewed the proposed colors for the awnings as approved in May 2013. The Applicant proposed to use a striped awning material, with colors to match the pomegranate and dior grey to be used on the façade. Mr. Borelli made a motion to approve the awning colors as presented; it was seconded by Mr. Massey. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried 6-0-1, with Mr. Smith in abstention; the awning colors were APPROVED.

47 Court Street – Façade: [Mr. Smith left during this case.] The Applicants presented this case. They were proposing an idea for how to fill the gap between the first and second floors of the building. There was a long discussion of possible methods. In the end, the Commission decided it needed detailed, professional plans in order to properly review the project. Mr. Darrow made a motion to table the case, but allow the Applicants to take appropriate steps to secure and winterize the gap while they work with a design professional to come up with a real plan; it was seconded by Mr. Borelli. There was some additional discussion, but no amendments or modifications to the motion. The motion was carried 6-0-0; the project was TABLED.

Other Business

- Staff provided the Commission with information on some legislation to create a Public Arts Commission. There was some general discussion of the impacts such a commission would have on CAUD.
- The Commission discussed moving the November meeting from Tuesday, November 26th (two days before Thanksgiving), to Tuesday, November 19th, at 12:00 noon. Mr. Haas made a motion to move the date of the meeting to the 19th; it was seconded by Mr. Klosky. There was no further discussion. The motion was carried 6-0-0.

There was no further business.

Mr. Darrow made a motion to adjourn the meeting; it was seconded by Mr. Haas. The motion carried 6-0-0. The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:35 PM.

The next meeting of the Commission on Architecture and Urban Design is scheduled for Tuesday, 19 November 2013.